

TITLENEAR IR SENSITIVE PHOTOIMAGEABLE/PHOTOPOLYMERIZABLE  
COMPOSITIONS, MEDIA, AND ASSOCIATED PROCESSESABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           Novel photopolymer compositions are disclosed which contain dyes that  
absorb strongly in the near infrared (near IR) region of the electromagnetic  
spectrum. These dyes are useful as photosensitizers for initiating a variety of  
photoimaging and photopolymerization reactions. Imaging Media are disclosed  
herein which are sensitive in the near infrared (near IR) region of the  
10       electromagnetic spectrum and which can initiate polymerization of ethylenically  
unsaturated monomer components in negative-acting photopolymer systems  
and/or which can initiate conversion of a leuco dye to its corresponding colored  
dye form. These imaging media comprise either a near IR dye photochemical  
sensitizer, a hexaarylbiimidazole (HABI) photoinitiator, a chain transfer agent,  
15       and a photopolymerizable material or a near IR dye photochemical sensitizer, a  
hexaarylbiimidazole (HABI) photoinitiator, and a leuco dye. These imaging  
media are useful in a variety of photopolymer products, including photoresists,  
proofing films, and holographic recording films.

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JMS/dmm